



# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

DEC 1 5 2017

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Reply to: OCE-101

## CERTIFIED MAIL — RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

#### NOTICE OF VIOLATION

The Honorable Nathan Leigh Mayor City of Parma P.O. Box 608 305 North 3rd Street Parma, Idaho 83660

Re:

City of Parma Wastewater Treatment Plant

NPDES Permit Number ID-002177-6

### Dear Mayor Leigh:

On January 24, 2017, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to the City of Parma ("City") for its wastewater treatment plant ("Facility"), NPDES Permit Number ID-002177-6 ("Permit"). The Permit became effective on April 1, 2017, and will expire on March 31, 2022. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of violations EPA discovered upon review of administrative files, including the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) submitted by the Facility, and in response to the September 13, 2017, inspection of the Facility conducted by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) on behalf of EPA. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the Facility's compliance with the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the NPDES Permit. I would like to express my appreciation for your staff's time and cooperation during the inspection.

## ADMINISTRATIVE FILE REVIEW

- 1. EPA reviewed DMR data from November 2012 through October 2017 and identified effluent limitation violations that constitute 202 violations of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1251 *et seq*. A list of the violations is enclosed (Enclosure).
- 2. Part III.B of the Permit states, in part, "The permittee must submit monitoring data and other reports electronically using NetDMR. Monitoring data must be submitted electronically to EPA no later than the 20th of the month following the completed reporting period. All reports required under this permit must be submitted to EPA as a legible electronic attachment to the DMR. The permittee must sign and certify all DMRs, and all other reports, in accordance with the requirements of Part V.E of this permit, Signatory Requirement."

JCIS 1/5/18 Dr Upon review of DMRs from December 2012 through November 2017, EPA discovered that the Facility failed to submit two DMRs. The Facility failed to submit DMRs for the monitoring months of April 2017 and May 2017, which were due by May 20, 2017, and June 20, 2017, respectively. Failure to submit complete DMRs by the due date is a violation of Part III.B of the Permit.

### SEPTEMBER 2017 INSPECTION

1. Part I.B.2 of the Permit states, in part, "Narrative limitations for floating, suspended or submerged matter: The permittee must not discharge floating, suspended, or submerged matter of any kind in concentrations causing nuisance or objectionable conditions or that may impair designated beneficial uses."

Part I.B.3 of the Permit states, "Monitoring for narrative limitations for floating, suspended or submerged matter: The permittee must observe the surface of the receiving water in the vicinity of where the effluent enters the surface water once a month for any conditions violating the narrative criteria in Section I.B.2 of the permit. The permittee must maintain a written log of the observation which includes the date, time, observer, and whether there is presence of floating, suspended or submerged matter. The log must be retained and made available to EPA or IDEQ upon request."

At the time of the inspection, both Mr. Zach Trillhaase, the Public Works Supervisor, and Mr. Brett Laird, a Facility operator, informed the inspector that neither the visual observations nor the monthly documentation was taking place. Failure to conduct the visual observations for floating debris, and/or maintain monthly documentation for the observations is a violation of Part I.B.3 of the Permit.

2. Part II.A of the Permit states, in part, "In addition to the requirements specified in Section IV.E. of this permit (Proper Operation and Maintenance), by 180 days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee must provide written notice to EPA and the IDEQ that an operation and maintenance plan for the current wastewater treatment facility has been developed and implemented. The plan shall be retained on site and made available on request to EPA and the State of Idaho."

At the time of the inspection, the inspector requested to review the Operations & Maintenance (O&M) plan. The plan was unavailable for review. Subsequent to the inspection, you, Mayor Leigh, provided IDEQ with a memorandum confirming that the above-mentioned documents have been updated and are now kept on site. Failure to maintain a copy of the O&M plan on site, and make it available to EPA or IDEQ upon request is a violation of Part II.A of the Permit.

Although our goal is to ensure NPDES facilities comply fully with their permits, the ultimate responsibility rests with the permittee. As such, I want to strongly encourage you to continue your efforts to maintain full knowledge of the Permit requirements, and other appropriate statutes, and to respond appropriately to ensure compliance. Notwithstanding your response to this letter, EPA retains all rights to pursue enforcement actions to address these and any other violations.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to call Raymond Andrews of my staff at (206) 553-4252.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Kowalski

Director

Enclosure
Effluent Exceedance Violations

cc: Mr. Tyler Fortunati

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Mr. Aaron Scheff

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Ms. Maria Lopez

Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Zach Trillhaase City of Parma

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